



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Vice Chair Michelle Steel

3rd District – Rolling Hills Estates

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Executive Director
www.boe.ca.gov

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Free Encinitas Small Business Seminar Geared Towards Helping Small Businesses Succeed

New business and small business owners who have questions about state or federal tax laws can learn valuable information at a free Small Business Seminar and Resource Expo on April 4, 2012. The event is being hosted by Board of Equalization Vice Chair Michelle Steel, who is joining forces with Senator Mark Wyland, Assemblyman Martin Garrick and the City of Encinitas.

Representatives from the Board of Equalization, Franchise Tax Board, Internal Revenue Service, Employment Development Department, U.S. Small Business Administration and the North San Diego County Small Business Development Center will be available at the fair to assist attendees.

Event: Encinitas Small Business Fair and Resource Expo
Date: Wednesday, April 4, 2012
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. (check-in at 8:30 a.m.)
Place: Encinitas Community and Senior Center
1140 Oakcrest Park Drive
Encinitas, CA 92024
(Free Parking)
Register: Call 888-847-9652 or go online at: www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/sbf.htm

Helpful topics being presented at the small business fair include avoiding common sales and use tax problems, better business through better records, forms of ownership, small business administration loan programs and services, difference between employee and independent contractor and social media marketing for small businesses.

For more information visit: www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/pdf/Encinitas_SBF_Invite_4-12_web.pdf.

Editor's note: please listen to the 15-second and 30-second audio public service announcements (PSAs) for this event at www.boe.ca.gov/news/Encinitas_PSA_15Sec.mp3 and at www.boe.ca.gov/news/Encinitas_PSA_30Sec.mp3

Additional information regarding other helpful in-person classes offered by BOE is available at: www.boe.ca.gov/info/VirtualSeminars/seminars_inperson.htm. The BOE offers easy to use, convenient, 24-hour accessible online seminars on a variety of tax and fee topics at: http://www.boe.ca.gov/info/VirtualSeminars/seminars_online.htm.

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Elected to the Board of Equalization in 2006 and re-elected in 2010, Michelle Steel serves as *Southern California's elected taxpayer advocate*. In December 2007, Steel discovered the Board of Equalization had delayed the return of

millions of dollars in security deposits owed to California businesses. Procedures were changed due to Steel's decisive leadership. Following her investigation, the tax agency refunded tax security deposits to over 5,500 small businesses. To date, over \$100 million in security deposits have been returned to taxpayers.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$50 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

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